

**Abstract 284****TITLE:** Psychiatric Co-morbidity in HIV Secondary Prevention**AUTHORS:** Sikkema, KJ; Kochman, A; DiFranceisco, W; Bergholte, J; Peterson M.  
(CAIR, Medical College of Wisconsin)**BACKGROUND/OBJECTIVES:** Co-morbid mental health factors, including substance abuse and other psychiatric disorders, likely impact treatment and secondary prevention among HIV infected persons. We examined the association between psychiatric diagnoses, mental health treatment, and coping with AIDS-related loss among HIV-positive men and women.**METHODS AND RESULTS:** HIV-positive men and women (n=189) were administered the Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV (SCID) and related psychosocial measures as a screening assessment for a mental health intervention for coping with AIDS-related bereavement. This treatment-seeking sample (21% female, 55% African American, 36% heterosexual) exhibited multiple mental health problems. Lifetime diagnoses included: 71% anxiety; 69% mood; 34% personality disorder; 44% alcohol abuse; and, 51% other substance abuse. They were grouped into mutually-exclusive, increasingly severe diagnostic categories: Mood or anxiety disorders (n=52); mood or anxiety disorders with substance-related disorders (n=68); and, mood or anxiety disorders with personality disorders, the majority (83%) also with substance-related disorders (n=69). The latter group, participants with multiple psychiatric diagnoses, were more likely to be younger and less educated ( $p<.01$ ), female, unemployed, and sexually active ( $p<.05$ ). They were also more likely to have been hospitalized and/or received substance abuse treatment ( $p<.001$ ), reported greater severity of grief reaction ( $p<.01$ ), and less adequate perceived coping ( $p<.01$ ) with AIDS-related bereavement.**CONCLUSIONS:** Multiple psychiatric disorders, including substance abuse and personality disorders, were common among HIV-positive treatment-seeking participants and were associated with distress and coping. HIV prevention interventions and treatment approaches must be tailored to address multiple psychiatric diagnoses.**PRESENTER CONTACT INFORMATION****Name:** Kathleen J. Sikkema**Address:** Medical College of Wisconsin, CAIR  
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